

Message Text

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11

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-04 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO USIA WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9576

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USIAC

EO 11652: NA

SUBJ: WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS, MAY 8 THRU 14

1. IN VIEW LOCAL INTEREST IN SECRETARY'S CURRENT MIDEAST TRIP, POST DISTRIBUTED KISSINGER BIO, PHOTO AND COPIES OF BOOK "UNDERSTANDING AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY," AN ARABIC TRANSLATION AND CONDENSATION PRINTED IN CAIRO OF THREE OF KISSINGER'S BOOKS. THIS BOOK HAD GOOD RECEPTION WHEN COPIES FIRST SENT OUT FEW MONTHS AGO.

2. AS WHENEVER IT APPEARS THERE PROGRESS TOWARD ARAB-ISRAELI SETTLEMENT WHICH DOES NOT SPECIFICALLY INCLUDE RETURNING PALESTINIANS TO HOMELAND, KUWAIT EDITORIAL COMMENT GENERALLY NEGATIVE ON SECRETARY'S PEACE EFFORTS. STRONG RUMORS THAT SECRETARY WOULD VISIT KUWAIT CIRCULATED IN PRESS AND ELSEWHERE, REACHED CLIMAX WHEN MOST PAPERS AND AT LEAST ONE GOK OFFICIAL REPORTED THAT HE HAD COME SECRETLY FOR TWO HOURS OF MEETINGS AND THEN LEFT.

3. SINCE DEATH LAST NOVEMBER SENIOR EDITOR ENGLISH-LANGUAGE DAILY NEWS AND HIS REPLACEMENT BY FIREBRAND PALESTINIAN, PAPER'S JOURNALISTIC STANDARDS, NEVER HIGH, HAVE DETERIORATED SHARPLY, TURNING PAPER INTO A HATE-AMERICA SHEET. BELIEVE PAPER HAS NO INFLUENCE OR EFFECT ON KUWAIT GOVERNMENT OR SOCIETY, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BUT DOES PRESENT HIGHLY DISTORTED VIEW U.S. INTENTIONS TO

ENGLISH-SPEAKING FOREIGNERS AND HAS SOME DEMORALIZING EFFECT
ON AMERICAN COMMUNITY. PORTRAYAL AS SPY OF IMPRISONED AMERICAN
SCHOOLTEACHER FRANKLIN REPORT KUWAIT 1901 IS REPRESENTATIVE
EXAMPLE.

ACTIVITIES (UNCLASSIFIED)

4. SCHEDULING FOR MEI GROUP VISIT BEGINNING MAY 16, AND EL-BAZ
LECTURE TOUR END OF MONTH PROCEEDING SATISFACTORILY IN KUWAIT
AND GULF STATES.

5. HOMAN, HALL AND DALGLIESH CONTINUED THEIR GULF ORIENTATION
TOUR WHICH ENDS THIS WEEK.

6. COUNTRY PLAN COMPLETED, WILL FORWARD SOONEST FOLLOWING
AMBASSADOR'S APPROVAL.
LISLE

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Message Attributes

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